



The safe return home

BACKGROUND

USAID has provided approximately \$5 million since 2003 to support counter-trafficking programs focused on prevention, protection, and prosecution. Trafficking of women and children for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation and bonded labor is a serious problem in Cambodia, a country which serves as a destination, transit, and source country for trafficked victims.

PARTNERS

International Organization for Migration (IOM):

IOM, in partnership with the Ministry of Women's and Veterans' Affairs (MoWVA), launched an information campaign in 18 provinces to raise awareness about migration and trafficking in women and children. The project is comprised of a multi-media information campaign, village-based activities, and development of counter-trafficking database. IOM also works with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Labor, Vocational Training and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSALVY) to provide psycho-social rehabilitation and material support to 10 local NGOs servicing vulnerable and trafficked children.

Internal Justice Mission (IJM):

IJM assists the local Anti-Trafficking Police, Juvenile Protection Unit of the Ministry of Interior, by providing training on how to conduct an investigation. IJM also works closely with court personnel during the investigation and prosecution of individual cases of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. In addition, IJM rescues victims and refers them to other NGO-managed shelters.

The Asia Foundation (TAF):

USAID has supported TAF in a range of human rights, democratization and decentralization programs for over 10 years. As of 2004, TAF became USAID's primary partner in implementing anti-trafficking programs including those developed under President Bush's Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Initiative. Serving as an umbrella organization, TAF provides subgrants and technical assistance to 18 local NGOs and manages additional projects in the areas of trafficking prevention, protection, and prosecution.

RESULTS TO DATE

- Public response to IOM's information campaign has been extremely positive, averaging 3,000 attendees per performance. An estimated 150,000 people from 13 provinces have been directly exposed to the campaign during the first and second year of implementation.
- In 2004, IJM trained 131 police officers of the Anti-Trafficking, Juvenile Protection Department, assisted in rescuing 61 victims, and advised in court cases resulting in 16 convictions.
- In 2004, the USAID supported trafficking program assisted 1,017 at-risk women and trafficked victims, provided reintegration support to 1,288, reintegrated 51 persons back into the community, provided scholarships to 73 at-risk women and victims, helped 28 at-risk women and trafficked victims to obtain employment, and established 16 community networks in the provinces.
- Over 200 teachers have been trained to educate their students and public about the consequences of sex trafficking and child sexual exploitation.
- Five youth clubs were formed to educate street children about the negative consequences of trafficking and child sexual exploitation.
- Over 700 community members and migrant workers participated in courses and public forums on trafficking, child protection and safe migration.
- Seven cases of human trafficking have been referred to court proceedings by NGO partners.
- Legal representation was provided to at-risk victims in 12 cases of domestic violence and rape.
- Scholarships were provided to 80 at-risk girls in secondary schools, and a Career Resource Center was established which has served 34 female victims and at-risk persons.